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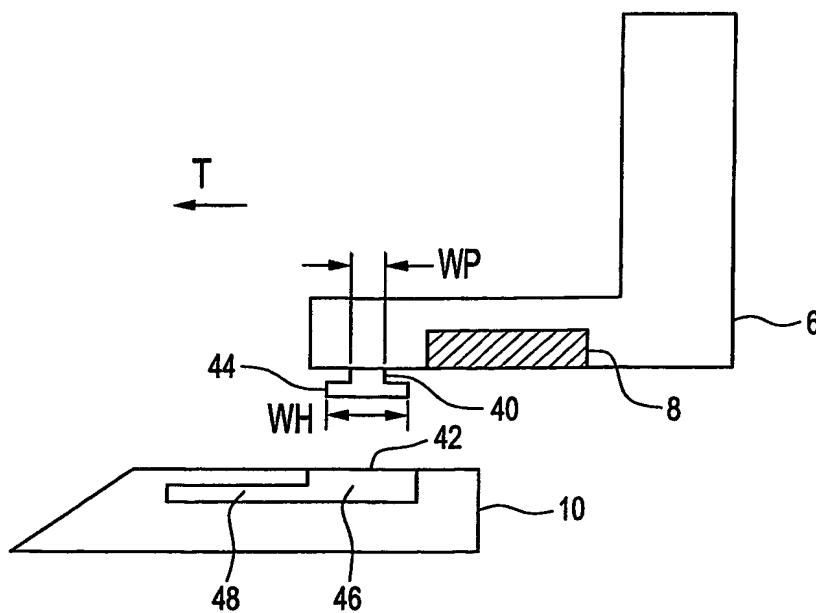
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(54) Title: MAGNETIC BLADE ATTACHMENT IN AN ICE CONDITIONING MACHINE



(57) **Abstract:** An ice conditioning apparatus comprises an ice conditioning machine mounted on wheels. A blade bar is mounted on the ice conditioning machine. An ice blade defines a cutting edge on a lower front edge thereof. A plurality of magnets are attached to the blade bar and are operative to exert a magnetic attraction on the ice blade and to hold the ice blade against the blade bar in an operating position such that the ice blade is oriented substantially parallel to the ice surface. The blade bar and ice blade define blade guides operative to prevent sliding movement of the ice blade out of the operating position when the cutting edge engages the ice surface in the operating travel direction. A blade height control moves the blade bar up and down. The magnets can conveniently be electromagnets, and a cradle facilitates installation of the ice blade.

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